



March 23, 2004

The Honorable Bill Thomas
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thomas:

Thank you for your work in bringing H.R. 2896, the “American Jobs Creation Act of 2003” to the House floor. This reform of international tax provisions in U.S. law is long overdue. By addressing the fundamental inequities facing U.S. taxpayers that undermine the competitiveness of American companies, your legislation will promote U.S. jobs and our competitiveness in the world economy.

Our member companies, which range from very small to very large businesses, are dependent on a strong domestic economy. Strengthening the competitiveness of U.S. multinational corporations will help to create and preserve American jobs. By helping U.S. companies compete globally, your bill will strengthen our economy at home. A strong domestic economy is critical to stability and growth in the real estate finance industry.

Our members appreciate your leadership and we offer our support and assistance as you move this legislation forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Couch".

Robert M. Couch, CMB
Chairman